Date: February 9, 2004 Label No. EV 348582555 US

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Sandra Stocklinski

Name (Print)

Signature Stocklinski

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

09/927,791

Confirmation No.: 7448

Applicant Filed

SHARAF et al. August 10, 2001

TC/A.U.

1743

Examiner

To Be Assigned

Docket No.

5010-103-01(Formerly 4422I1)

Customer No.

35411

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 9, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08a (two pages).

The documents listed on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08a were cited in, and include, a European Search Report issued for European Patent Application No. 01125166.7-2204, an application corresponding to the above-captioned application, and are being submitted prior to the three-month anniversary of the date of mailing of the European Search Report.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that at least the patents and published applications cited in the attached Forms PTO/SB/08a be made of record in the present application and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

PAGE

05

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/927,791 Information Disclosure Statement dated February 9, 2004

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This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the cited documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925, and please consider this a petition.

Respectfully submitted

Leonard D. Bowersox Reg. No. 33,226

KILYK & BOWERSOX, P.L.L.C. 3603-E Chain Bridge Road

Fairfax, VA 22030 Tel.: (703) 385-9688

Fac.: (703) 385-9719

Enclosures: Forms PTO/SB/08a (2 pages)

Copies of Four Cited Documents Including

European Search Report

PTC/SB/08e (05-03)
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